

LITERARY NOTES.

Mr. Ruskin in his autobiography says of Byron's letters that they "contain the unique number that will some together in the space of a minute just, wise and kind thoughts," and which are "perfect because the quantity they hold is not artificially or intricately concentrated, but with the serene swiftness of a smith's hammer-strokes on hot iron."

The minister in Mr. Howells' new *Century* story, "The Minister's Charge," is the Rev. Mr. Borden, who figured in "The Rise of Silas Lapham."

Heath & Co. will shortly publish "The Temperance Teachings of Science," by Dr. A. B. Palmer, of Michigan University.

It is to have a new monthly magazine, *The Citizen*, the first number appearing this month. It is to be devoted to the discussion of questions of popular interest relating to citizenship and government, and will be edited by members of the American Institute of Civics.

The first volume of the posthumous works of Victor Hugo will be published shortly. It is entitled "Théâtre en Librev."

Rev. William Wilberforce Newton, author of "Priest and Man," issues "Summer Sermons from a Berkshire Pulpit," from the press of J. H. Harrison, Pittsfield.

The Full Mail Gazette advises book-collectors whenever they purchase a book to "write plainly on the first page the name of the person from whom it was bought and the price." In order to enforce this excellent hint, *The Gazette* has added, considerably to the interest and value of the library sold this week. In some cases the rise in value of a volume has been enormous. For example, a thin folio of *Sects of Parsons*, printed in black letter on vellum about the middle of the sixteenth century, was bought in 1779 by Mr. Woodfall for one guinea, and by Mr. Pain in 1886 for 151 guineas. Mr. Bain, however, denies that he has paid an extravagant price. One guinea left at considerable interest in 1779 would, at 5 per cent, in 1886, as may be ascertained by a very rapid calculation, amount to just 150 guineas, and if during the next century the same process of accretion of value be continued, some Mr. Bain of the future will have to give about \$20,000 for this unprejudiced and by no means attractive volume.

The autograph or dictated letters which passed between Goethe and Schiller will before long be added to the Goethe archives. They are now in the possession of Baron Carl von Cotta, of Stuttgart, who purchased them in 1875, but he has agreed to sell his treasures to the Grand Duchess of Saxe-Weimar, the owner of the archives, for the price originally given. There is one condition, however, attached to the transaction, and that is that Baron von Cotta shall retain the MSS. during his lifetime, and use them without restraint for literary purposes.

Mr. William Cushing, in his "Dictionary of Pseudonyms and Literary Disguises," issued by Messrs. Low & Co., states that the "Judas" letters were attributed to no fewer than fifty-one writers of repute, and a list of their names is given.

The Italian Government has offered a reward of 10,000 lire to any one giving certain information of where a codex of Cicero's "De Officiis," stolen from the Municipal Library of Perugia, is to be found. A report is current to the effect that the stolen manuscript has been sold for 600 lire to an English or German collector. The Italian Embassies in foreign countries are authorized to pay the reward. Romualdo Longfellow, the son of the long-pronised Life of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, by his brother the Rev. Samuel Longfellow.

Henry M. Brooks has prepared a series of volumes, of which the material has been gathered from old newspapers of Boston and Salem, which will be known as *The Old Time Series*, each book to have a separate title, such as "Curiosities of the Old Lottery"; "Days of the Spinning Wheel"; "Quaint and Curious Advertisements"; "New-England Sunday," etc. Ticker & Co. will publish them.

Jansen, McClurg & Co. announce for immediate publication a new edition of George P. Upton's "Women in Music."

Andrew Lang is to make a book of his "Letters to Dead Authors."

The *Academy* reports that Wilson & McCormack, the Glasgow publishers, will bring out in cheap form selections from the prose and verse of Walt Whitman.

It is said that Père Didon, the well-known Dominican priest, is writing an elaborate reply to M. Renan, to be called "Réfutation de la Vie de Jésus."

It is announced that a public demonstration will take place at Kilmarne in August next, under the auspices of the federal Burns clubs, on the occasion of the centenary of the publication of the first edition of the poems of Burns.

The late Charles Storrs amused himself for many years in collecting material for a book on the Storrs family in England and America. This material has been used in the preparation of a volume now in the press of A. S. Barnes & Co.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

AUTHORSHIP OF THE FRENCH GOTHICS. By William Marston, pp. 142. (Thomas Whittaker.)

TWO COLLEGE GIRLS. By Helen Davis Brown. 12mo, pp. 325. (Boston: Ticknor & Co.)

THE LIFE AND GENIUS OF GOETHE. Edited by F. B. Sanborn. 12mo, pp. 454. (Boston: Ticknor & Co.)

UPLAND AND MEADOW. By Charles C. Abbott, M. D., author of "Primitive Industry," &c. pp. 2, 398. 12mo, Cloth, \$1.

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